

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

IO-12 OMB-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 NEA-10 /128 W

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R 041720 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3522

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

COPENHAGEN 574

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

HELSINKI 354

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0363

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR XZ KN KS IC

SUBJECT: NORDIC FONMIN MEETING; RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA

REF: A. OSLO 1283; B. COPENHAGEN 0662

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. GOI IN CLOSEST COORDINATION WITH DENMARK
WILL PROBABLY RECOGNIZE NORTH KOREA BEFORE SUMMER. END SUMMARY.

2. MFA DEPSEC GEN INGVI INGVARSSON CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF REPORTS
CONTAINED IN REFTELS. GOI HAS NOT YET CONSIDERED NORTH KOREAN
RECOGNITION QUESTION BUT WILL DO SO NOW FOLLOWING NORDIC FON-
MIN COMMUNIQUE ON SUBJECT. INGVARSSON INDICATED THAT GOI FELT
ITSELF UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM OTHER NORDICS TO TAKE
ACTION. SUCH PRESSURE COULD NOT BE IGNORED FOR VERY LONG.
ALTHOUGH INGVARSSON DID NOT MENTION IT, FONMIN AGUSTSSON IS
ALSO UNDER PRESSURE FROM TWO COMMUNIST MINISTERS IN ICELANDIC
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CABINET. AS IN PAST SITUATIONS CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF COMMUNIST REGIMES. PROGRESSIVE PARTY FONMIN USUALLY HAS CONSIDERED THAT THIS IS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY TO AVOID STRIFE WITHIN CABINET.

3. INGVARSSON EMPHASIZED THAT ICLANDERS HAD COORDINATED CLOSELY WITH DANES AT OSLO MEETING AND EXPECT TO TIME THEIR RECOGNITION CLOSELY. FINNS WILL LEAD OFF WITH RECOGNITION OF BOTH KOREAS, FOLLOWED BY SWEDISH RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA. DANES AND ICELANDERS WILL PROBABLY FOLLOW SOMEWHAT LATER. WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT EXACT TIMING, INGVARSSON INDICATED THE DECISION WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE " BY EARLY SUMMER". HE SAW LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT DECISION COULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER 1973 UNGA. EMBOFF EXPRESSED REGRET AND RECALLED PREVIOUS DEMARCHES MADE BY US ON THIS SUBJECT.

4. EMBOFF QUESTIONED INGVARSSON ON ATTITUDE OF NORWEIGIAN GOVT. HE SAID THAT NORWEGIANS MAINTAINED THERE HAD BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF ISSUE AND WOULD NOT COMMENT ON PROBABLE OUTCOME OR TIMING OF RECOGNITION SHOULD DECISION BE MADE TO GO AHEAD. EMBOFF ASKED INGVARSSON IF GOI HAD CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY OF FOLLOWING NORWEGIAN RATHER THAN DANISH TIME TABLE. INGVARSSON REITERATED THAT GOI FELT IT COULD NOT AVOID PRESSURE TO MOVE AHEAD. (GOI AS SMALLEST OF THE NORDICS IS ALWAYS EAGER TO AVOID EITHER TAKING THE LEAD OR BRINGING UP THE REAR ON JOINT INITIATIVES.)
IRVING

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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